

**PATENT APPLICATION
Q93831**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Thomas HAFKER, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/595,202

Group Art Unit: 3722

Confirmation No.: 4549

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: March 23, 2006

For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR PRODUCING (CIGARETTE) PACKETS

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the document which is listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

A copy of the cited EP '523 reference is submitted herewith. Please note, the cited EP 1125843 was previously cited in the German Search Report, submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement filed on April 20, 2006.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), and therefore Applicant is filing concurrently herewith a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e). No fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98
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Attorney Docket No.: Q93831

Applicant encloses a copy of a TORTA Research S.r.l. letter, received in the EPO on March 15, 2008, for Applicant's counterpart European patent application, and citing the listed document.

The submission of the listed document is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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